



ANIMAL CARE AND WELFARE, SPCA



"... in behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves but depend on **honorable** men and women for kindness, mercy and justice"

POST OFFICE BOX 8257 • PITTSBURGH, PA 15218 • (412) 244-1372 • HOURS TO 5:30 p.m. DAILY

1628 '99 JUN -9 11:01

EDWARD J. BLOTZER, JR.
Chief Humane Society Police Officer

Docket Management Group
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
Dept. Health/Humane Services.
12420 Parklawn Dr., Rom 1-23
Rockville, MD

RE: DOCKET 98P 0203 CP

Friends:

Respectfully request action that
would eliminate the inhuman and immoral
practice of forced molting. It is
totally INEUMANE to deny any animal
of daily food and water.

Kindness, cooperation invited and
will be appreciated.

Humanely,

EDWARD J. BLOTZER, JR., President.

98P-0203

C1583

> The Paradox of Our Age

>
> We have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but
> narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but
> enjoy it less.
>
> We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but
> less time; we have more degrees, but less common sense; more knowledge,
> but less judgment; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but
> less
> wellness.
>
> We spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too
> angry too quickly, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too seldom,
> watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.
>
> We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We
> talk too much, love too seldom and lie too often.
>
> We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added
> years to life, not life to years.
>
> We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble
> crossing the street to meet the new neighbor.
>
> We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; we've done larger
> things, but not better things; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted
> the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice; we write more, but
> learn less; plan more, but accomplish less.
>
> We've learned to rush, but not to wait; we have higher incomes; but
> lower morals; more food but less appeasement; more acquaintances, but
> fewer friends; more effort but less success.
>
> We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more
> copies than ever, but have less communication; we've become long on
> quantity, but short on quality.
>
> These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men and
> short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships.
>
> These are the times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more
> leisure and less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition.
>
> These are days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses,
> but broken homes.
>
> These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway
> morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do
> everything from
> cheer, to quiet, to kill.
>
> It is a time when there is much in the show window, and nothing in
> the stockroom.

ANIMAL CARE & WELFARE, INC. S.P.C.A.

A STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

How To Housebreak Your Pup

Does housebreaking have to be a hassle? Not necessarily—and that's fortunate since it's the most important step in your dog's training. Obviously, if he doesn't learn where he is supposed to relieve himself, he'll never be welcomed as a full-fledged member of the family. And, if you fail to establish your authority at this kindergarten stage of his training, you're going to have a very hard time ever convincing your dog that you're the head of the household.

Start by thinking positively. *To housebreak a dog is to teach a dog to relieve himself outside the house.* It's not to teach the dog that you become angry when he relieves himself indoors.

When to begin

The best time to introduce your pup to the rules of personal conduct is when he's about three months old. If you begin much earlier, you'll probably be wasting your energy—he won't be able to control his functions. At three months, the pup has developed a capacity for learning and reacting to new experiences rather than just depending on the instincts he was born with.

How to put his body on schedule

Although it seems that a young pup is in a constant state of elimination, his body functions are fairly predictable. He feels the urge to relieve himself after he wakes up, after he eats, and after he plays. If you'll schedule these activities, you'll know when to take him outside.

First thing in the morning, take the pup for a walk. Don't let the walk turn into an outdoor play period. At this point in his life, there's only one reason for the puppy's being outside. When he does what you took him out to do, praise him lavishly, love him enthusiastically—but get him back into the house quickly.

A three-month-old pup should be getting three meals a day. It's important that you schedule these meals at a time that's convenient for you so you won't be forced to alter the routine from day to day.

Allow the puppy just ten or 15 minutes to eat his meal. If he loses interest in his food in less time, assume he's full and take his dish away. Then take him for another walk. When the mission

is accomplished, praise him and bring him back inside.

You'll have to repeat this same routine with each meal. The purpose is to train the puppy's body to operate according to your schedule. A secondary benefit is that the dog will learn to eat when he's fed; his food isn't going to be left out for him to nibble whenever he feels like it.

Naturally, between meals there are going to be times when the puppy will have to go out. If he's been romping or playing, assume a walk would be fruitful. If he's been napping, he should go out when he wakes up. If he starts acting nervous and sniffs around, he's signaling for an outing.

You can't be with the puppy all the time; when he's not under a watchful eye, he should be confined. While restricting his area of activity first appears to be a convenient method of limiting the area he can damage accidentally, the motive goes deeper. No dog will willingly soil his own sleeping quarters. You'll be capitalizing on this instinct by limiting his area to one just big enough for him to sleep and play in without feeling trapped. When he whines frantically, he just may be trying to tell you that he needs to get out. Respond quickly and take him outside.

How to deal with accidents

If the puppy makes a mistake to which no one was witness, there's just one course of action. Clean it up. If you grab him by the scruff of his neck, drag him back into the room, and rub his face in the mess, all you'll accomplish is to make the puppy fear you. He simply doesn't have the mental ability to connect his indiscretion with your anger.

Adherents of the rub-his-nose-in-it routine counter by saying, "He does understand. If he didn't he wouldn't act so guilty when we come back into the room." The point is that the pup associates the presence of the excrement with punishment, but does not connect his act of relieving himself with your displeasure. It's your job to help him make this association and this is possible only through correction, not punishment.

How to correct the puppy

Any time the puppy starts to make a mistake, you must act

quickly. Say "No!" sharply and loudly enough to take his mind off what he's doing so he'll give you his undivided attention. Then sweep him up and carry him outdoors. When he finishes outside, the mishap has been avoided and he deserves your praise. Give him a lot of it; he's earned it.

Resist the temptation to swat him when you catch him about to make a mistake. You want his attention to be on you, not on what you might do to him.

Paper training

Paper training is not a preliminary step to housebreaking, but an entirely different form of toilet training. Naturally, you'll want to cover the floor in the pup's confinement area with newspapers, but don't encourage his substituting them for a trip outside. Treat an impending accident on the papers with the same correction as you would one on the carpet. Otherwise, the dog will learn that the paper is a suitable alternative to an outing, and you'll never be able to trust him alone if there are papers lying on the floor of the house.

But, if your dog is going to spend his entire life indoors, then he will have to be paper trained. The training technique is the same as for housebreaking, except a trip to the newspapers takes the place of the route through the front door.

A puppy instinctively tends to return to the same place he has already used as a toilet. You can capitalize on this by sandwiching a slightly used piece of newspaper between two clean ones. The paper doesn't have to be distastefully soiled; your puppy can detect odors you miss completely.

How long should housebreaking take?

Housebreaking doesn't take as long as it seems at the time. You should note marked improvement in your pup's ability to control himself in just a week. Within three weeks even the most backward pup should understand what's expected of him and may even whine and scratch at the door. If you seem to be getting nowhere after a month's training, talk with your veterinarian. Your puppy may have a physiological problem or illness that makes him incapable of controlling himself. ■

For The Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Thru Education

SUPPORT ANIMAL CARE AND WELFARE, Inc.

P. O. BOX 8257 • PITTSBURGH, PA. 15218

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE



For The Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Thru Education

Owner Responsibility

Puppies Need MORE Than Love

So you want to own a dog? Or think you do. Have you considered the expenditure of money, time and energy that dog ownership demands?

Before making that important decision, take a realistic look at some basic dog data for the first year. If you adopt a puppy from the Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society, the initial cost starts at:

\$ 16.00
plus tax

Then come the veterinary bills

(all veterinary costs are estimated):

at eight weeks, a series of two shots for distemper and hepatitis are necessary	20.00
at three months, a rabies shot is strongly recommended	12.00
at five to six months, spaying/neutering should be done. Cost is dependent upon the length of hospitalization and size of dogs. Spaying of cats at low cost —	35.00 to 45.00
Phone 823-2764.	

(Any cats and dogs adopted from the society are entitled to be spayed/neutered at a discount by participating veterinarians, and the pet owner will be reimbursed the full purchase price (less tax), plus a \$5 cash grant in an effort by the society to encourage owner responsibility and lessen the pet overpopulation.)

All this time your dog is eating and growing!

vitamins—important for rapid growth period	12.00
food—kibbled dry food or puppy chow with high protein canned food or cottage cheese (cost contingent, of course, on size of dog)	100.00 to 200.00

Your dog must be a legitimate member of the community.

licensing (at four months in the city and six months in the county)	4.00
collar and leash	8.00

If you don't take your dog with you on vacation you may wish to consider boarding

average daily rate	3.00 to 6.00
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The total expended for the first year varies from

\$233.00
to

\$341.00 and more



Doghouse
built to order
\$65.00 to \$125.00



and does not take into account any medication, treatment for accident or illness, or increased costs of food.

Other basic needs include your dog's own dishes, a place to sleep that is dry and protected, and a space for exercise.

NOW — what about you? Your time, patience, and energy? Those trips to the veterinarian, special care after any hospitalization, the beginning of training, knowing and obeying applicable animal control laws, and the time spent just getting acquainted — all this requires a commitment.

Do you still want a dog? Think about it. Do you have the time, the money, the energy to say, "YES"??

Pet Care Kits

Distributed

In an effort to provide better homes for animals adopted from the Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region, the society is distributing pet care kits to all pet owners.

The kits include a long time, and a better care designed work in Arko.

time, and a better care designed work in Arko.

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A STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

American Veterinary Medical Association Should Have A Consistent Ethic On Animal Care

By Karen Davis, PhD and Holly Cheever, DVM

Society has every reason to applaud the strides that are being made against cockfighting in this country. Last year, voters in Arizona and Missouri banned cockfighting, leaving only three states to go. Now, this year, Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) has introduced a bill (SB 345) that if passed into law will ban the shipment of birds intended for cockfighting from states where cockfighting is illegal to states where it is still legal. By introducing this bill, Senator Allard, a veterinarian, has proposed legislation that accords with the position of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), which holds that cockfighting should be classed as a felony offense.

Given the AVMA's strong stand against cockfighting, it is deeply disappointing that the association has refused to take a stand against a practice that is every bit as cruel as cockfighting and one that puts many more birds in a state of continuous suffering. The practice, which is known as forced molting, involves the starvation of entire flocks of hens by the egg industry for purely economic objectives. Each year the U.S. egg industry deprives millions of hens - six million hens at any given time - of all food for up to fourteen days in order to manipulate their metabolism and force exhausted birds to pump out a few hundred more eggs before going to slaughter. During the forced molt, food-deprived hens peck desperately at empty metal troughs and are driven to pluck and eat each others' feathers to obtain nutrients. Countless hens die from the stress. When food is finally restored to the surviving hens, many of them choke to death in trying to swallow it after having been starved for so long.

Forced molting is a blatantly cruel practice that should be illegal. It is so stressful to the birds that it impairs their immune systems, predisposing the hens and their eggs to *Salmonella* infection. Summarizing the enormous background of information on the subject, the U.S. Department of Agriculture told the authors in a letter dated August 21, 1998, that it "recognizes that public health concerns are raised by highly stressful forced molting practices."

The AVMA is similarly aware of the link between forced molting and foodborne illness. In a report published last year in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association (JAVMA)*, entitled "*Salmonella Enteritidis* infections in the United States" (December 15, 1998), the authors noted not only that *Salmonella* is a "major health problem," but that "Eggs are the predominant source of *Salmonella Enteritidis* infections in humans." Most significantly from the standpoint of prevention, the report noted that *Salmonellosis* is a foodborne disease that has been "traced back to the farm of origin" and that infected hens have been identified as the source of many outbreaks. The report concluded that while consumers can reduce their risk of

Salmonella infection by avoiding eating undercooked or raw eggs, "control of *Salmonella* will require preventing infections in egg-laying and broiler chickens."

This should be a call upon the poultry and egg industry to eliminate forced molting as a necessary step to disease prevention. Instead, the AVMA has chosen to turn a blind eye to forced molting. Ignoring the requests of veterinarians and animal protectionists around the country to adopt a humane position on the treatment of hens used for egg production, the AVMA at a recent meeting merely added a provision to its existing policy that "Additional research is needed to improve the welfare aspects of the molting process." Really what this means is that untold numbers of hens will continue to be experimentally starved in laboratories as well as being starved commercially at the farm level.

Forced molting experiments have already been conducted for decades and reams of articles have been published showing the harm of starving the birds. To summarize, the practice of forced molting produced the following lesions (injuries) and effects: a 15-35% loss of body weight due to loss of mass from fat, muscle, skeleton, liver, and feathers; beaded ribs and pathological fractures noted at slaughter; a decrease in immunocompetence due primarily to a depressed T-cell (thymus immunity) response, and hemorrhagic gastrointestinal tracts with an increase in the shedding of and susceptibility to *Salmonella Enteritidis*, which adds the concern of public safety to that of animal welfare. What more does the American Veterinary Medical Association require?

While the AVMA cannot regulate the poultry and egg industry, (any more than it can regulate the cockfighting business), it can and should adopt a policy of opposition to forced molting, as it has effectively done on cockfighting. By virtue of the authority of the AVMA, the policy would have a major impact. No one knows better than a veterinarian how terribly an animal can suffer. The public expects veterinarians to heal animals, not profit from their misery. Instead of condoning the starvation of hens for profit, the AVMA should stand up for the hens as it has done for the victims of cockfighting. Our request is for consistent protection for all animals, including farmed animals.

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
THRU EDUCATION

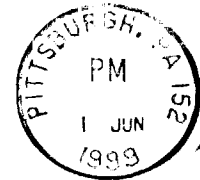
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20852+1728

